obligation of sugar factories to 10% of their production, providing buffer subsidy to the sugar mills to clear cane price arrears and providing export subsidy/incentives on export shipments of sugar.

A statement showing the total cane price payable, total cane price paid, total cane price arrears and the %age of arrears on cane price payable as on 30.9.2004 for the three earlier sugar seasons is given below:

(Rs. in crores)

Seasons	Position as on	Total Price payable	Total Price paid	Arrears	% of arrears on price payable
2003-2004	30-9-2004	11,526.68	10,945.86	580.82	5.0
2002-2003	30-9-2003	13,991.73	12,211.08	1,780.65	12.7
2001-2002	30-9-2002	13,899.42	12,779.82	1,119.61	8.1

Base depots of FCI in Madhya Pradesh

†893. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of base depots the Food Corporation of India have in Madhya Pradesh for the supply of foodgrains under Public Distribution System;

(b) whether the number of these base depots is adequate for the -utilization under Public Distribution System;

(c) if not, whether Government propose to establish more base depots of FCI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR.AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) There are 36 base depots of the FCI in the State of Madhya Pradesh for the supply of foodgrains under the Public Distribution System.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.